

From: CB32X4@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/3/02 10:07am
Subject: RE: MICROSOFT SETTLEMENT

I wish to state my views on the Microwave settlement and they will be short but they fairly represent my position on this matter. I am a small business owner that works from my home as a home builder in North Carolina with 30 years of building experience. I graduated with a degree in Chemistry from Elon College(now Elon University) and started my building career before the computer revolution began. Slide rules, ledger paper, and hand written checks were the order of the day.

I recognized that the computer revolution was going to leave me behind if I did not get on board. So I computerized my business in 1983 and immediately found that I could multiply my efforts with technology in lieu of manpower. As a self taught computer person I cannot continue compete in the building business without the benefits of quality and compressively designed software and compatible hardware. The Microsoft windows software and similar programs are essential to the success of my business and to so many more of the baby boomers trying to compete with the more computer literate recent graduates of today.

I worry that this litigation would reduce the gains of Microsoft technology to another VHS/BETA war that some win and some will loose out and who is looking out for the losers. Please allow this great innovative company to settle the litigation and let the rest of us continue to operate our businesses with the best available choices that we can find. If Microsoft's product did not work they would not be selling them the way that they are. This country cannot continue bust up good companies for the sake of a chance on new upstarts that may or may not workout.

The past histories of the breakup of AT&T and the cell service divisions within cities is all of the proof that our Justice Department should stay out of Corporate America. The Justice Department must have better things to do that screw up hard work of so many small business people.

Thanks for reading my views and lets get on with the business of being cooperative Americans, we all have much to celebrate and with which to be proud.

Sincerely,
Chester W. Burgess
Burgess Construction Co.